NATURAL NEWS

The Field Museum
Exploring
The Earth And Its
People

March 7, 1997

THE CHANGING SHAPE OF BELIEF

CCUC Forum

Tuesday, March 11, 1997
4:45 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. Registration and Exhibit Review
5:15 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. Discussion
A. Montgomery Ward Lecture Hall

Reservations -- call x530

Panelists: Andrew Apter, Professor of Anthropology, University of Chicago; Max Beauvoir, Houngan, The Temple of Yehwe; Marilyn Houlberg, Professor of Art and Anthropology, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago and co-curator of the "Sacred Arts of Haitian Vodou" exhibit; and moderator, William Leslie Balan-Gaubert, Haitian Historian and Ph.D. Candidate, University of Chicago.

Using the exhibit "Sacred Arts of Haitian Vodou" as a starting point for conversation, the panel and audience will explore the question, "What is the impact of the encounter of religious traditions on culture and creativity in Haiti?"

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The A. Watson Armour III Spring Symposium, "Biological Invasions: Consequences & Ecological Restoration" is fast approaching, and we will need many volunteers to ensure the success of this event. The symposium features distinguished speakers from across the country and around the globe who will address issues raised by biological invaders, such as Buckthorn and Zebra Mussels. The symposium is April 12, 1997. Volunteer opportunities will be available throughout the day, from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Anyone who volunteers for an hour or more is invited to attend the symposium and the reception that follows free of charge. We will need volunteers for a variety of areas including registration, lunch ticket sales, greeters and guides. Don't miss out on what is certain to be an exciting event!

If you would like to volunteer, or would like more information about the symposium, please contact **Jean Fraleigh** at (312) 922-9410 x717 or write symposia@fmppr.fmnh.org.

CENTER FOR CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING AND CHANGE

The Center for Cultural Understanding and Change (CCUC) has an exciting series of talks and panel discussions lined up for the months of March and April. You'll see flyers up for them soon. But we thought we would let you in on the secret earlier. We hope to see you there. Contact us at x669 if you have any questions.

March 11, Tuesday Max Beavoir, Houngan, Temple of Yehwe, "Vodun From an Historical Point of View," Lecture Hall I, 2:00 p.m.

March 13, Thursday Geoffry J. Irwin, Professor of Archaelogy University of Auckland, New Zealand "Issues in Pacific Colonization: Recent Archaeological Fieldwork in the Moluccas, Eastern Indonesia" Zoology Classroom, 12 noon.

March 18, Tuesday Terence Turner, Professor of Anthropology, University of Chicago "Powerful Pictures: An Indigenous People's Use of Visual Media in Their Struggle for Land and Self-Determination," Public lecture and Video Screening, Webber Center, 5:30 p.m. (On the Kayapo Indians of Brazil).

CENTER FOR EVOLUTIONARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY

KELLEY RECEIVES MORE AWARDS

Graduate student **Kate Kelley** (Zoology and University of Chicago) recently heard from the Entomological Society of America (ESA) that she is the winner of the North Central Branch's J.H. Comstock Graduate Student Award for 1997. These awards are given (one by each geographical branch) to promote graduate study in entomology, and are based on the student's accomplishments and goals in entomology. The award will provide Kate with an expenses-paid trip to the ESA national meeting in Nashville in December and an award check.

This is Kate's third ESA award -- in December, 1996, at the ESA national meeting in Louisville, she won the oral student competition in the Systematics, Morphology, and Evolution section for her talk, "Evolution of chemical defenses in tiger beetles: Phylogenetic analysis of benzaldehyde production in subgenus Habroscelimorpha." This followed her winning a similar award the previous year for a poster presentation of some of her dissertation work. Kate's advisor is Associate Curator **Barry Chernoff** (Zoology); Adjunct Curator **Margaret Thayer** (Zoology) is also on her Ph.D. committee.

Margaret Thayer was also at the Louisville ESA meeting in December, along with Associate Curator **Al Newton** (Zoology) and graduate students Yih-cheng Shiau and Matt Dean (both Zoology and University of Illinois at Chicago). Margaret, Al, and Yih-cheng (Al and Margaret's

WELCOME! Staff Members who started in February

Laura Dini	ECP	Administrative Assistant	426
Elixabeth Garibay	Exhibits	Assistant Exhibit Developer	687
Anna Graybeal	Zoology	Assistant Curator, Herps	368
Hope Huckaby	Special Events	Administrative Assistant	864
Martin Pyyzdia	Botany/Zoology	MS-Science II (Tech Asst)	271/722
Valerie Reeb	Botany	MS-Science II (Technician)	592/387
Nina Sweeney	Exhibits	Exhibit Preparator	329
Matthew Timms	Exhibits	Assistant Lighting Technician	554

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR NEW POSITION!

James Pulizzi	Insects/Invert	MS-Science II (Tech Asst)	259/577

GOODBYE and GOOD LUCK... Staff Members who left in February

Stacey Chavez	Visitor Services	Visitor Services Rep
Kevin Cunningham	Visitor Services	Visitor Services Rep
Tyrece Hunter	Visitor Services	Visitor Services Rep

PUBLIC SERVICES JANUARY EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

WAYNE GERDES

January nominees: **Christine Ochoa, Eddie Redwood, Imelda Saucedo,** Housekeeping; **Robert Gray, Jeremiah Nimene, Monique Tarleton,** Security.

Public Services congratulates the nominees and Employee of the Month for their exceptional teamwork and outstanding customer service!

student) each had a poster presentation on their research on rove beetles and related groups. Matt is a student of Assistant Curator **Bill Ballard** (Zoology). Margaret spent much of her time attending or running meetings of the Coleopterists Society (of which she finished her term as president) or ESA committees and sections (she is Chair of the Systematics, Morphology, and Evolution section for 1997). Yih-cheng and Matt both enjoyed their first ESA meeting and plan to attend others.

SEMINARS BY CRANE AND WAGNER

Two Field Museum curators gave seminars at the University of Illinois last week. Vice President, Academic Affairs and Director **Peter Crane** spoke to the Ecology and Evolution group in Biological Sciences, while Assistant Curator **Peter Wagner** (Geology) spoke to the Department of Geology.

CHICAGO AREA PCR/SEQUENCING GROUP

The Biochemistry Laboratories at The Field Museum are hosting informal monthly meetings open to all interested parties. The group was initiated in late 1996 by researchers at the Museum interested in networking with others who might be able to help solve some of the problems faced in the labs on a regular basis. The subject is PCR and DNA sequencing: methods, protocols, troubleshooting, automation, analysis, and interpretation. Individual researchers bring problems and present them to the group for potential solutions (Macintosh computer and Zip drive provided). Currently the roster of attendees includes representatives from several universities, medical schools, core sequencing facilities, hospitals, zoos, museums and industry. The meeting provides a casual setting, including refreshments, to get together and help each other by trading tips, protocols, experiences, etc.

Every third month, the meeting is open to vendors and sales reps. who bring samples and answer questions about their products. Among the group participants at the regular monthly meetings are several field engineers and technical specialists from these same companies.

Scheduled meeting dates are: Wednesday, March 12; Thursday, April 3; and Thursday, May 1. For more information or to get on the mail list, contact **Lee Weight** (Biochemistry Labs) (weight@fmppr.fmnh.org) or x628.

NOON BALLOON

The Noon Balloon presentation for Tuesday 4 March 1997 was delivered by **Anna Graybeal**, Assistant Curator, Reptiles and Amphibians, Department of Zoology, Field Museum. Anna discussed the results of her investigations into the performance of phylogenetic methods. In situations where the data do not permit resolution of relationships of interest, the choice becomes one of either increasing the number of taxa or adding new data. She explored the consequence adding taxa to a four taxon statement having two long branches where each addition bisected the

longest branch, and the number of characters was held constant. She found inconsistency declined from four to ten taxa, and disappeared with eleven or more taxa. She also found basal additions to have a greater influence in reducing inconsistency compared with terminal additions of taxa.

LESBIAN & GAY EMPLOYEES POT LUCK LUNCH

Wednesday, March 12
12 N - 1:00 p.m.
Zoology Classroom

All are welcome -- staff and volunteers, lesbians, gays, bisexuals and straight people too -- ***all are welcome.***

Please bring a dish to share. Questions? Call **Steve McCarroll** (x336).

Construction Briefs

THE DOCK IS OPEN! Under construction, but open! To make sure that your deliveries are received, please ***schedule special deliveries*** (for special events and special items) with Andy (x380) and the Dock personnel (x287).

Thanks!

WORKING AFTER HOURS?

Reminder: When coming in after hours or on weekends, staff should enter by the ***west*** door, *not* the north or south doors.
Thanks. -- Public Services (x564)

The *Natural News* is edited by **Carolyn Klyce** in the President's Office. The deadline for all submissions -- in WordPerfect on floppy disk or via email to klyce@fmppr.fmnh.org -- is Tuesday at noon.

Printed on recycled paper.

Welcome!

Institutional Advancement welcomes the arrival of **Kevin Edgeworth** this Monday, March 17, as Secretary to the Campaign Office. Kevin comes to the Museum from the Hyde Park Bank with over ten years of experience in banks. His skills and attitude look perfect for the fast-moving Campaign. Please stop by to meet Kevin.

-- **Will White,** Vice President,
Institutional Advancement

NEW ACCOUNT CODES

Please continue to use the new account codes that were effective as of January 1, 1997. These have been published in the *Natural News;* if you need additional copies of the list, please contact **Meseret Gelaw** (x476).

However, please be aware that until the 1996 books have been audited and closed, the computer printouts will use 1996 titles for all account numbers. We will probably close the books at the end of April, and then the new account titles will appear.

Example: For printing expenses, you should now be using account code 529. For now, the computer printouts will call this "Amortized expense." Don't worry and please continue to use the correct new number. As soon as we close the books, the computer printouts will list 529 as "Printing."

Thanks.